

## **SOLID WASTE COLLECTOR MEETING**

**MAY 20, 2004**

Staff and representatives of the solid waste collection companies met on May 20, 2004 in Suite 448 of the Fairfax County Government Center.

Present:

Reston Trash, John Hasle  
American Disposal, Paul Coury, Buff Mundale, and Larry Edwards  
AAA Disposal, Peter Crane and Chuck Miner  
Potomac Disposal, Conrad Mehan  
Chairman's Office, Catherine Lunsford  
Solid Waste Program Staff, Jeff Smithberger and Joyce Doughty

The primary topic of the meeting was changes to Chapter 109 of the County Code. At our previous meeting staff mentioned the need to make some changes to the Code, to clarify language/definitions and incorporate language to reflect organizational changes. The representatives of the collection companies asked to have early input in the process.

Issues discussed include:

- Set out requirements: consolidate language currently in two places in the Code which describes the type of container that must be used and when only plastic bags are allowable. It was noted that because of storage space limitations, especially in older condos and townhomes, the collectors believe we will need to continue to allow use of plastic bags.
- Bag weight: current Code language allows for bags weighing up to 50 pounds, a request was made to consider lowering this to 40 pounds.
- Staff needs to clarify the Zoning and Building official sign off requirements.
- Modify/add definitions, such as, Collector and Solid Waste.
- County should be required to give collectors 45-60 days notice on rate increases if collectors must give their customers 30 days notice.

Some other comments made at the meeting:

- Don't make the collectors the trash police.
- How do we permit special collection companies that take both trash and large special items?
- Can we implement a "no plastic bag" for yard waste recommendations ASAP?
- More recycling information sent from the County to citizens is needed to help minimize contamination.
- Collectors would like a separate letter on County rate increases that they can provide to their customers for contractual purposes.

The new Solid Waste Task Force being established by the Board was discussed.

- Solid Waste Collection Companies are expected to be represented.

- It was asked if meetings with the Collectors will continue once the Task Force is formed. Joyce Doughty indicated that the ongoing working relationship between staff and the collectors will be a long-term relationship. The Task Force will be a short-term group that is to report in a year.
- The collectors asked how they will be kept informed of the Task Force's issues. Staff agreed to schedule monthly meetings with the collectors and provide that briefing along with any other items that may be timely. The monthly meetings will be the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month, 2:30 p.m., in Suite 448 of the Government Center. **The first monthly meeting will be June 24<sup>th</sup>.**

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